the parking brake is engaged, wherein the gear shift lever is prevented from being shifted out of park when said auxiliary device is turned on or is in said operational state, or when the parking brake is engaged.

2.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 1, wherein the auxiliary device is a lift device operable through one of said vehicle's doors, and wherein one of said sensors senses whether the door associated with said lift device is open, wherein the gear shift lever is prevented from being shifted out of park if either the parking brake is engaged or the lift door is open.

3.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 2, further comprising a solenoid circuit connected to said microprocessor and said gear shift lever to prevent said gear shift lever from being shifted out of park if either the parking brake is engaged or the lift door is open.

4.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 2, further comprising a visual display for displaying the status of at least one of said plurality of sensors, said visual display being connected to said microprocessor.

5.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 4, wherein said visual display comprises at least one light-emitting diode.

6.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a circuit for operating said microprocessor through the vehicle's battery, said circuit comprising a step down voltage regulator connected between said microprocessor and said battery.

7.   (canceled)

8.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a filter circuit provided between at least one of said sensors and said microprocessor for isolating said microprocessor from any voltage spikes.

9.   (canceled)

10.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 8, wherein a filter circuit is provided between each of said sensors and said microprocessor.

11.   (canceled)

12.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 1, wherein said gear shift lever sensor is a digital or analog sensor.

13.   (amended) An interlock circuit for use in a vehicle having a battery, a gear shift lever, and a parking brake, to prevent the operation of a lift device having an ON/OFF switch operable through a door of said vehicle, wherein said lift device is prevented from operating unless said vehicle is in a secure position, comprising:

a microprocessor;

a plurality of sensors connected to said microprocessor, said sensors being connected to various vehicle components and capable of sensing various conditions relating to whether said vehicle is in a secure position; and

a circuit connected to said microprocessor and said lift device for preventing the operation of said lift device unless at least one of said various conditions is present.

14.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 13, wherein said various conditions are taken from the group consisting of: whether the gear shift lever is in park, whether the parking brake is engaged, whether the vehicle's ignition is ON, whether the lift

device is ON, and whether the vehicle's door through which the lift device operates is open.

15.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 13, wherein the lift device will not operate unless all of said various conditions are met.

16.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 14, wherein the lift device will not operate unless all of said various conditions are met.

17.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 13, further comprising a visual display for displaying the status of said sensors.

18.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 13, further comprising a filter circuit provided between at least one of said sensors and said microprocessor for isolating said microprocessor from any voltage spikes.

19.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 18, wherein a filter circuit is provided between each of said sensors and said microprocessor.

20.   The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 13, further comprising an auxiliary device operable only when said gear shift lever is in park.

Please add the following new claims:

21.   An interlock circuit for use in a vehicle having a battery, a gear shift lever, and a parking brake, to prevent the operation of said vehicle when an auxiliary device is turned on or is in an operational state, said circuit comprising:

a microprocessor; and

at least one sensor for sensing when said auxiliary device is turned on or is in said operational state, wherein said circuit is adapted to prevent said gear shift lever

4

21

from being shifted out of park when said auxiliary device is turned on or is in said operational state.

19 22. The interlock circuit of claim 21, wherein said circuit has a parking brake sensor for sensing whether the parking brake is engaged, wherein the gear shift lever may not be shifted out of park when the parking brake is engaged.

20 23. The interlock circuit of claim 21, wherein the auxiliary device is a lift device operable through one of said vehicle's doors, and wherein a sensor senses whether the door associated with said lift device is open, wherein the gear shift lever is prevented from being shifted out of park if the lift door is open.

24. The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 1, wherein the auxiliary device is a lift device operable through one of said vehicle's doors, and wherein one of said sensors senses whether the door associated with said lift device is open, wherein the gear shift lever is prevented from being shifted out of park if the lift door is open.

25. The interlock circuit in accordance with claim 1, wherein the gear shift lever is prevented from being shifted out of park if the parking brake is engaged.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the present application in view of the above amendments and following remarks:

1. Drawings:

Formal drawings will be provided upon allowance of the claims. Also, the block shown in Figure 1 with the reference number 1 will be labeled with the word "microprocessor" to overcome the Examiner's rejection. A proposed drawing correction is enclosed.